

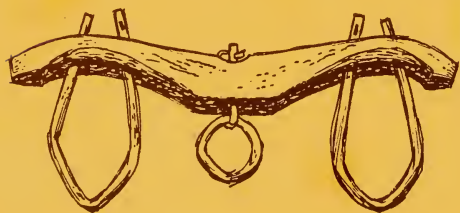
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Allegheny College.

. The Lincoln Room

LINCOLN ROOM

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
LIBRARY



MEMORIAL

the Class of 1901

founded by

HARLAN HOYT HORNER

and

HENRIETTA CALHOUN HORNER




The
LINCOLN ROOM

THE REIS LIBRARY

of

ALLEGHENY
COLLEGE



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Lincoln Room

PROGRAM

for the

Dedication of the Lincoln Room

Allegheny College

MEADVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA

★

FRIDAY, OCTOBER EIGHTEENTH

eight o'clock

Ford Memorial Chapel

★

DEAN JOHN RICHIE SCHULTZ, *presiding*

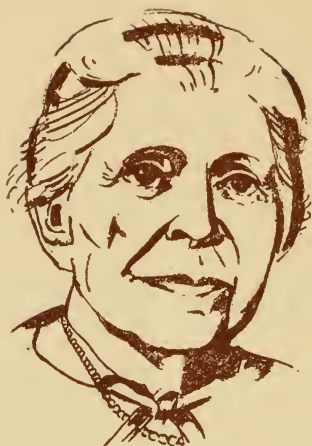
Speakers

PRESIDENT WILLIAM PEARSON TOLLEY

CARL SANDBURG

★

*Following the exercises, there will be a reception
by the Library staff in the Lincoln Room*



IDA M. TARBELL

The Story of the Lincoln Room

IN THE LATTER PART of the nineteenth century, S. S. McClure, dynamic founder of the magazine that bore his name, persuaded a young journalist to terminate her freelance writing in Paris and devote her energies and enthusiasm to American history. An early assignment was the assembling and editing of "unpublished" reminiscences about Abraham Lincoln. Thus opened a great new field to Ida M. Tarbell, an Allegheny College alumna of the class of 1880. A rare combination of reporter and scholar, Ida Tarbell soon wanted to know more about the human side of the great Civil War president. She was curious to uncover neglected material about Lincoln's childhood and family, his life as a young man before he became a figure in the public eye. These were the keys that people could use to understand Lincoln's character, personality and actions. She wrote and published five books and numerous articles about Lincoln, and her name became linked with his.

THROUGH the years, Ida Tarbell gathered Lincoln material — books, newspapers, pamphlets, unbound periodicals, photo-

graphs, cartoons, maps and letters. Almost before she knew it, she had become a zealous Lincoln collector. But hers was a working collection, one that was used and studied, a collection with the breath of life in it. In 1933, Miss Tarbell announced that she would some day like to send her collection to Allegheny College. It was an offer for which her Alma Mater was grateful, and plans were made by Miss Edith Rowley, librarian, to house the material in an appropriate and accessible setting.

THE PROJECT crystallized in the spring of 1939, when Miss Tarbell returned to Allegheny for a month as a resident lecturer. Her collection preceded her from New York City, and attention was drawn anew to the need for suitable facilities to house the material and carry out her frequently reiterated wish that the collection be freely used and easily available to students. A devoted friend, Mrs. Anne Chambers Morck of Oil City, fulfilled Miss Tarbell's wishes. At this auspicious time, Mrs. Morck offered to furnish the Lincoln Room as a memorial to her father, Wesley Chambers, an Alleghenian of the class of 1854. To the project, Mrs. Morck gave her personal interest as well as financial support and made possible the carrying out of Miss Tarbell's plans. A part of Miss Tarbell's dream was to frame the room with a series of murals depicting episodes in Lincoln's life and reflecting her own ever widening interest in Lincoln history. Professor Julius Anton Miller of the department of art undertook the task of designing and supervising the murals, using the talent and enthusiasm of students in his classes to augment his own work.

AS WORD went out about Miss Tarbell's collection and the plans the college had for the Lincoln Room, contributions of valuable Lincoln items and other relevant material began to flow to The Reis Library. One of the many friends of Miss Tarbell who showed keen interest in the project, Dr. John H. Scheide of Titusville provided an endowment for the Lincoln



CARL SANDBURG

Room, in addition to numerous gifts of historical value. Thus, with Miss Tarbell's material as a nucleus, the collection will continue to grow.

THE LINCOLN ROOM has emerged in simple and dignified form. The warm beauty of cherry wood in shelving and furniture is especially appropriate. But

most important — and it is an honest tribute to Lincoln and Wesley Chambers and Ida Tarbell — the Lincoln Room is a place to work.

WHEN Miss Tarbell was preparing to send her collection to Allegheny, she thoughtfully had some of the outstanding books autographed by contemporary authors. To one of the authors, she wrote a request that a book be autographed, mentioning that she wanted to send the volume to her Alma Mater. The answer she received was:

My good friend,

Send on that book and I shall be more than pleased to sign it for you. At Allegheny they have shown me the room, and it will be good to think of it being there amid your materials which have been of service to me.

CARL SANDBURG

It is fitting that Mr. Sandburg, regarded by many as the foremost Lincoln scholar of today, should be the speaker for the dedication of the Lincoln Room.

During the summer of 1939,
the Lincoln Collection was catalogued
by the Library staff, assisted by Miss Esther Cushman
of Brown University. The Lincoln Room was designed
and furnished by the E. W. Schwegler Company
of Cleveland. Steel furnishings are
by Remington Rand



*Portrait sketches in this printed piece are by
Michael Alexatos, a member of the sophomore class*

Gaylord Bros.

Inc.

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